



News From

Maggie Brooks

Monroe County Executive

For Immediate Release

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BROOKS ANNOUNCES ABVI-GOODWILL INDUSTRIES IS APRIL BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks today announced that the Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ABVI)-Goodwill Industries of Greater Rochester, Inc. has been selected as Monroe County's "Business of the Month" for April and will be featured on Monroe County's website, monroecounty.gov.

Brooks visited ABVI-Goodwill last month as part of her Business Outreach program.

*"ABVI-Goodwill is an impressive organization that provides critically important and comprehensive services to the blind and visually impaired in our region," said **Brooks**. "ABVI provides good jobs through its call center and manufacturing and retail divisions, greatly benefiting our local economy. Their work is also impacting our world, as the agency makes the training uniforms for the U.S. Air Force and the running pants worn by our soldiers in Iraq."*

*"We are honored to be chosen by the County Executive for this prestigious recognition and be among the other businesses in our region who have worked diligently and successfully to create, enhance and maintain jobs," said **A. Gidget Hopf**, Ed.D., President and CEO of ABVI-Goodwill. "We value our partnership with the County on efforts such as our food service program which provides meals to thousands of seniors each month, and the 2-1-1/LIFE LINE program which connects people in need with programs to meet those needs, and we will continue to maximize our collaborative efforts to develop meaningful employment opportunities in a variety of diverse and challenging work environments."*

ABVI-Goodwill was founded in 1911 and employs 316 people in Monroe County. Its mission is to prepare and empower people who are blind or visually impaired to be self-sufficient and contribute to their families and communities.

ABVI-Goodwill provides a full range of vision rehabilitation and employment and training services to people of all ages. Its business services include manufacturing programs that provide a variety of products and services, including self-stick note pads and state-of-the-art CD-ROM replication; two nationally recognized call center operations; Goodwill retail stores; and a hospitality and catering group.

To support ABVI-Goodwill in its growth, Monroe County has provided assistance through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and COMIDA.

For more information on ABVI-Goodwill, visit abvi-goodwill.org.

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